



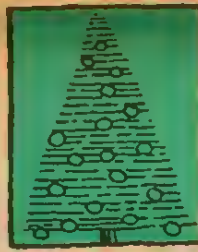
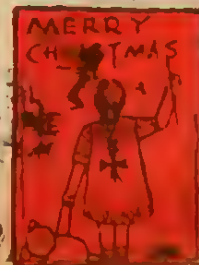
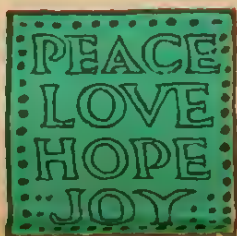
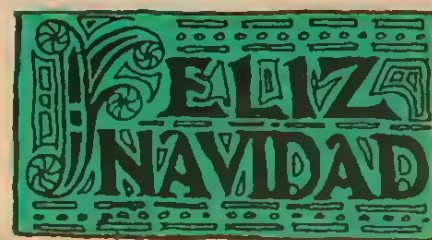
December, 1996

Volume XXVII, No. 11

FREE

SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM THE VIEW STAFF



Hill Corrections Facility Drops Bid to Expand

By Michael Mattis

Cornell Corrections has dropped—at least for now — its bid to double the inmate population of its prison work fur-lough facility on Indiana Street.

"Our agency discussed the issue and came to a decision to put it off until at least sometime next spring," said Cornell Corrections Regional Administrator Ralph Johnson.

The private, Houston-based company had raised the hackles of neighbors on lower Potrero Hill last spring when it announced it would seek permission

from the Planning Department to in-crease the Indiana Street Facility's in-mate population from 50 to 96.

The bid was dropped in October after the scope of neighborhood opposition be-came clear. During a series of community meetings held to discuss the increase, Potrero Hill residents were vocal in their opposition to the plan.

Citing reasons for the postponement, Johnson said his company wanted more time to build a rapport with facility neighbors. "We wanted to get more in-volved in the community, have more

(Continued on Page 5)

Group Set to Counter Threat to Esprit Park

By Vas Arnautoff

Fears that a rare plot of greenery at the bottom of the east side of Potrero Hill may be sold to developers has spurred the formation of "Friends of Esprit Park," a group dedicated to saving the park.

The property in question is the city block on Minnesota Street between 19th and 20th Sts., which the previous owners of Esprit de Corp. had in 1982 developed

for use by residents of Potrero Hill and the Third Street corridor.

Previously occupied by light industrial firms, the block was transformed into an 80,000 square foot preserve designed in "English Parkland" style, containing mature plantings of native trees and shrubs. It also has a running track, benches, picnic tables, parcourse fitness stations, a grass tennis court and more than an acre in open lawn, and has

(Continued on Page 5)

INSIDE VIEW

Open Hand Seeks Help

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How the Hill Voted

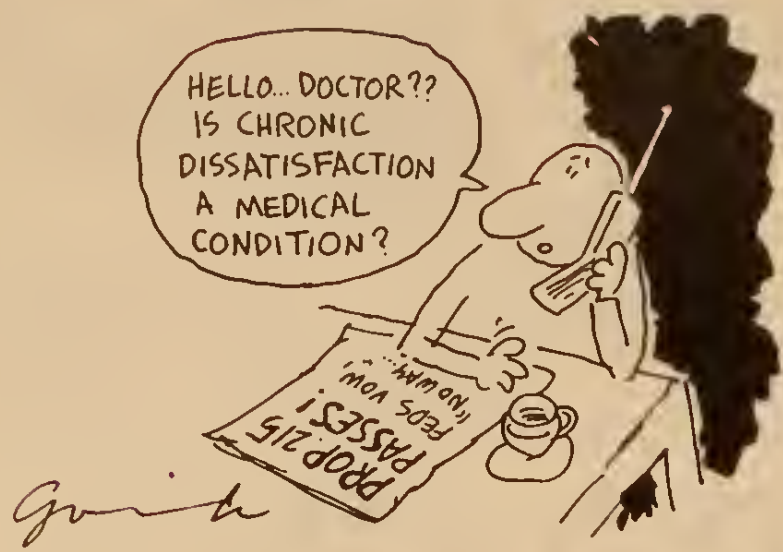
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Hiller Pens Parents' Guide

Page Six

Local Artist in Smithsonian

Page Eight



GETTING INVOLVED

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) held its holiday dinner and awards ceremony — too late for the View's Dec. deadline — on Thursday Dec. 5. The January meeting — Thursday, January 7 — will take up the crime stats, and goals for 1997. Meetings — with members of the S.F. P.D. will take place as always in the Community Facility at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps, 7 p.m.

Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board meets the second Monday of the month (Dec. 9 & Jan. 13) at the Health Center, 1050 Wisconsin St., 6-7 p.m. The public is invited.

Potrero Hill Democratic Club meets the second Tuesday of the month (Dec. 10). However, this month the group will instead be having its annual Potluck holiday dinner party. Members should call Bob at 285-5877 for time and place. Next month (on Jan. 14) it's back to the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House and the issues of the day, 7 p.m., at 953 De Haro St.

Starr King Park Board meets the second Wednesday of the month (Dec. 11 and Jan. 8) in the Potrero Hill Library, 1616-20th St., 7 p.m., upstairs. The work party days will be held as usual on the third Saturday, (Dec. 21 & Jan. 18), at 10:30 a.m.

PLAN (Potrero Hill League of Active Neighbors) meets on the third Wednesday each month (Dec. 18, executive committee only). On Thursday, Dec. 19, the group will stage a caroling party through a few blocks on the Hill, where carolers and would-be carolers will be provided with sheet music containing the lyrics we may have forgotten — and where some generous Hill merchants have hinted at refreshments. Meet at 6 p.m. at the Library, 1616-20th St. Finish at 9 p.m.

Potrero Hill Boosters & Merchants will present their annual Christmas Brunch on Sunday, Dec. 15 at (where else?) Waffleopalous, aka Asimakopoulos Restaurant, 18th and Connecticut Sts., 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Boosters' next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan. 28, as usual, at the Potrero Hill Library, 1616-20th St.

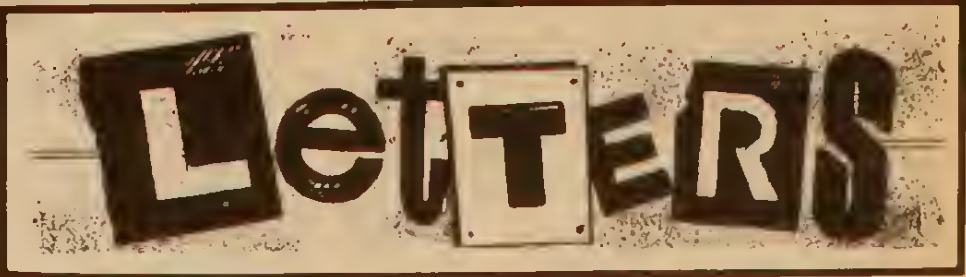
San Francisco General Hospital announces the Grand Opening Celebration for the new Birth Center and the newly renovated Infant Care Center, Thursday, December 12 at noon. The general San Francisco public is cordially invited to attend this gala event. 1001 Potrero Ave., Main entrance, new building (Birth Center), 6th Floor.



EDITOR: Ruth Passen ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Judy Baston
EDITORIAL BOARD: Vas Arnautoff, Judy Baston, Ruth Passen

DECEMBER STAFF: Lysa Allman, Vas Arnautoff, Judy Baston, Maya Ulloa-Charbonneau, Michael Dingle, Bernie Gershater, Paul Gershater, Larry Gonick, Julia Jaurigui, Michael Joe, Abby Johnston, Ann Long-knife, Marylouise Lovett, Winifred Mann, Denise Meblin, Michael Mattis, Stephanie Potter, Jeff Wood and Lester Zeidman.

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Noise Pollution

Editor:
During the past eight weeks, I have noticed a significant increase in the level of noise pollution on Potrero Hill coming from arriving and departing aircraft.
This annoying addition to our neighborhood "Atmosphere" is most specifically noticeable at nighttime hours, from 10 p.m. 'til 6 a.m. I thought that there was a curfew for urban airports.
All of a sudden, Potrero Hill has become a flight path for jets landing in the Bay Area and this disturbance of the peace seems to have gone unreported and unnoticed.

How did this happen? When did this happen? What can we do about it?
Hal Josephson
Arkansas Street

Call for Police

Editor:
My car was stolen from the area of 25th St and De Haro last month. In the process of recovery, we found out from the officer at the Potrero Station:
* There is no longer a police officer patrolling any of Potrero Hill. There has not been a regular officer on the Hill for several month.
* The Potrero Station is the most understaffed in the city.
* The Potrero Station sector statistics of my three-block area of the Hill shows over 20 auto thefts in the last three months. Multiply that amount to all the other sectors of the Hill and the number is staggering.
* Overall crime in the Potrero Station District, particularly the south end of

the Hill and around San Bruno Ave. in The Excelsior, is increasing at an alarming rate.
When I contacted the Police Commission to inquire how officers are assigned to different stations, I was told the numbers were assigned by the Police Chief. I encourage readers of **The Potrero View** to call or write the Police Chief at 850 Bryant St., 94103, or telephone 553-1551 and demand adequate staffing at the Potrero Station. Also that a regular officer patrol Potrero Hill.
Steve Reuss
25th Street

Thanks to Community

Editor:
I want to take this opportunity to thank the many people throughout the Potrero Hill community, as well as the city, for the love and sincere wishes for me and my family upon the death of my son, Ron Hatter.
Over the years of working in this community, I have found much comfort and support from a variety of sources. And in this time of my personal tragedy, again I find the warmth and closeness of those of you who both attended the memorial services, and/or took the time to send me a message.
I am very happy about and proud of the support I receive from so many, both for my personal life, and for the work we accomplish at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House.
Enola D. Maxwell
Executive Director
Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

IN OUR VIEW

Troubling Questions Linger On Public Housing Attacks

The spotlight recently turned on the case of a Laotian family in Potrero Annex public housing who for months were all but ignored by the San Francisco Housing Authority when the family complained about repeated attacks of vandalism and intimidation — all with the goal of driving them out of the Annex. The family was finally moved by the Housing Authority, but a host of troubling and unanswered questions remain.
Why are complaints of violence and intimidation not dealt with immediately? Even if the long range goal of creating a safe, violence-free environment in public housing is an uphill battle, public housing tenants should be able to have their complaints about violence and intimidation investigated immediately, and, if necessary, a transfer accomplished without delay.
This family in the Annex, and other families of Southeast Asian background have for a number of years been the target of racist attacks in public housing on the Hill and throughout the city. Why have the Housing Authority, the federal Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, and city agencies such as the Police Dept. not recognized that these are hate crimes and must be taken — and acted upon — with the utmost seriousness?
All residents of public housing deserve a safe place to live, free from the "every-day" violence that constantly plagues public housing, — and free from racial hatred.

Have The Potrero View Delivered to You!

☐ Yes! I want "The View" delivered to my home for a full year (11 issues).

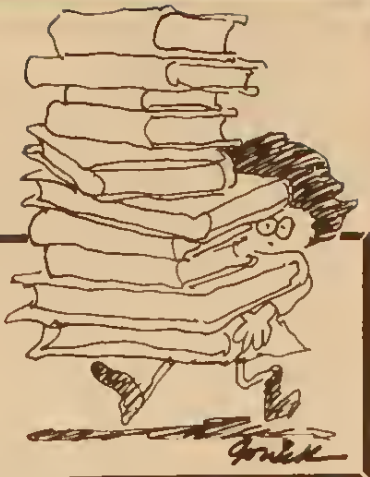
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Address _____

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, CA 94107

LIBRARY NEWS
POTRERO BRANCH
1616 20th St. • 695-6640



Closed Monday
Tuesday: 10 am - 9 pm
Wednesday: 1 pm - 9 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
Saturday: Noon - 6 pm

GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN: SUPPLEMENTARY JUSTICE

On December 10, at 7 p.m., the documentary film, "Supplementary Justice: The Jimmy Smyth Story," will be shown in the library's second-floor meeting room. The film's award-winning director, Patrick Ruane, will introduce the film with a short presentation on the case of Jimmy Smyth, an Irish nationalist who was deported from the United States earlier this year. A description of the film reads, "To any film about Northern Ireland it's very important to strike a balance between two equally powerful points of view. On the one hand you have the British government's version of events — on the other hand you've got the truth." If you enjoyed "In the Name of the Father," you will surely not want to miss this film and presentation.

SILK PURSE FROM A SOW'S EAR? ART FROM WHAT'S REUSABLE

Local craftswoman Karen Soleau will lead a workshop for children on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. called, "Art From Re-usable Materials." Those who had fun making masks in October — and those who weren't able to join us then — should be sure to participate.

DECEMBER CHILDREN'S FILM PROGRAM

"Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain," will be shown on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

GETTING THE JUMP ON JANUARY

As there is no January issue of *The View*, here are the special programs for children that will take place in January:

CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY

On Sat., January 18, at 4:30 p.m., calligrapher Lam Po Leong will demonstrate and instruct in the art of Chinese calligraphy.

NEW VIDEO/FILM SCHEDULE DEBUTS WITH "CORDUROY"

Due to a staffing shortage, videos and films can be shown only during open hours. Unless otherwise advertised, morning showings will take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m., and evening showings on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. This month, "Corduroy" will be shown at 10 a.m., January 7, and at 7 p.m. on January 8.

CHILDREN'S LAPSIT AND STORY TIME

Infant-Toddler Lapsits are every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Preschool Story Times are every Thursday at 4 p.m. If you are interested in attending a Saturday Story Time at 4 p.m., please let us know.

The VIEW staff
is taking
a well-deserved
holiday break!

See you
in February

LIBRARY WISH LIST — THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Videos are very popular items at the Potrero Branch. Waiting in storage are many new additions to our video collection, which cannot circulate because an order for clear plastic protective cases has not yet reached us. The order was placed more than six months ago, and there has been no explanation for its strange delay. Dr. Video has made video containers available, as have other branches that have extras, but we still need many more for the new videos that arrive weekly, and for donations from patrons.

If you have extra clear plastic video cases at home, please consider donating them to the Potrero Branch. Ye will be rewarded with more videos to check out.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER

"Coming Attractions: Books on Order" is a regular feature of this column, but this month there are none because of the library system's nearly \$2 million deficit. We are continuing to order leased books in compliance with a contract that the library has with The McNaughton Company. The books listed here are being leased from McNaughton:

* Nachman, Dr. Patricia & Andres Thompson. "You and Your Only Child: The Joys, Myths and Challenges of Raising an Only Child." This family therapist addresses two basic issues: parents' concern that they handicap their child by raising him or her alone, and the best approach to raising an only child.

* O'Toole, Peter. "Loitering with Intent: The Apprentice." Volume two in O'Toole's eccentric memoir is a keenly wrought portrait of the actor's life as a student at the Royal Academy, and a dreamy adventurer from the provinces who finds his way around and about London.

* Sacks, Oliver. "The Island of the Colorblind." Dr. Sacks set up a clinic on the island of Ingelap where an isolated community is completely colorblind.

* Cornwell, Patricia. "Hornet's Nest." The inner secrets of police work are here revealed against the backdrop of the city of Charlotte.

* Dorris, Michael. "Cloud Chamber: a Novel." Rayona, the 15-year-old beloved character from "Yellow Raft in Blue Water," and an amnesiac explore the effects of time and memory and the energy and persistence of affection.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILDREN

Children's books are continuing to be ordered under provisions of a children's charter amendment that provides funding.

* Buehner, Carolyn & Mark. "It's a Spooch, Not a Shovel."

* Babette. "The Bad Good Manners Book."

* Gralla, Preston. "Online Kids: A Young Surfer's Guide to Cyberspace."

* Rosenberg, John. "William Parker: Rebel Without Rights."

* Staples, Suzanne. "Dangerous Skies."

Toba Singer
Potrero Branch Librarian

TEN YEARS AGO
In The View

GOING TO DIPPERENT SCHOOLS TOGETHER:

Some 250 former students of Daniel Webster and St. Teresa's Schools gathered at the Verdi Club on Mariposa Street on Nov. 8, 1986 for a joint reunion. The second such get-together, the brainchild of Diane (Gigante) Cevolani (Daniel Webster '54), demonstrated, as one celebrant put it, "what's special about our neighborhood — we all knew each other." Reunion participants from as far back as 1925 dined on roast beef and pasta, but the real special of the day, said the View, was "large slabs of nostalgia in generous portions."

NEW POTRERO POLICE CAPTAIN:

New Potrero Station police captain Frank Reed, who lived on Potrero Hill since he entered St. Teresa's School in the fourth grade, pleased with his new assignment, said "This station probably has the most community support of any other area." The 21-year police veteran felt, however, that to be more effective the station should be moved to a more central location in the large district that it covers. Such a move was supported by some Hill residents and citizens of Bayview—Hunters Point but opposed by others, including then-Hill resident Assemblyman Art Agnos.

RALLY TO SAVE THE FARM:

More than 100 people jammed into the community hall at "Crossroads Community," more popularly called "The Farm," at Potrero Avenue and then-Army Street to protest the threatened eviction of the non-profit organization. The multi-purpose community center with San Francisco's only urban farm, complete with goats, chickens, ducks, rabbits and community gardens, also housed a bilingual daycare center, community hall with kitchen, theater and art gallery. The Farm needed to raise more than \$30,000 to help in negotiating a new lease, and its board of directors voted unanimously to continue operating and fight eviction.

ST. TERESA'S PARISHIONERS VIEW EL SALVADOR:

St. Teresa's Parish members Patty Griffin and Michael Busk returned from a six-day trip to El Salvador sponsored by the SHARE foundation. They visited the local church's sister parish of San Francisco de Assis in Mejicanos, a poor suburb of San Salvador, and brought back an eyewitness account of the continuing reign of terror from military death squads in the area. The parishioners of San Francisco de Asis worked providing aid to refugees from the war in their country through basic schooling, a medical clinic and self-help programs. The government, said Busk and Griffin, felt threatened by this sort of community organizing and targeted the Catholic Church and labor unions for reprisals.

THIS AND THAT:

The Julian Theater's 18-year stay at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House came to an end, the group moving to the Burian Clay Theater. . . . A letter to the editor called for donations to help continue the lighting of the Bay Bridge, which was due to be removed in May, 1987. . . . The Martin de Porres House of Hospitality, which had been offering free meals for 15 years, was settling into its new quarters at 225 Potrero Avenue. . . . Ian Brown of Wisconsin Street was rated among the top 10 math students in the state, garnering one of the highest scores in the California Mathematics Test for 11th grade students. . . . "No Left Turn" signs at 20th and Rhode Island Streets remained despite hundreds of names on petitions opposing them. . . . Work on the Potrero Hill Mural Project at 17th and Connecticut Streets began and a party for supporters was held across the street at the Jackdaw (now Connecticut Yankee) restaurant. . . . The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre was planning to launch its 1986-87 season with the West Coast premiere of "Sartre" on Jan. 16 at the Nabe Theatre. . . . The Potrero Hill Middle School softball teams ended successful seasons with the girls taking the city championship and the boys the western division title.

AND 20 YEARS AGO:

From the View Want Ads: "FOR RENT: Unfurn. apts. Panoramic view. Util. incl. No pets. \$200/mo. & up. Near trans. & shopping."

- Vas Arnautoff

Historical Landmark

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107
(415) 826-8080
Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

ON-GOING MEETINGS:

Al-Anon	Thursdays, 6:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Sun, 8:00 pm/Mon & Thurs, 8:30 pm
Girls/Boys Club	Mondays, 4:00 pm
Narcotics Anonymous	Wednesdays, 8:00 pm
Omega Boys Club	Tuesdays, 7:30 pm
Overeaters Anonymous	Thursdays, 7:00 pm

FACILITIES:
Auditorium for theatre presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops and receptions
Bulletin board with employment and event listings
Gymnasium and recreational space
Meeting spaces available for use by community groups
Mini-park

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES:

• After School/Summer Youth Activities	• Peer Counseling
• Arts and Crafts	• MET Theatre Ensemble
• Food Distribution	• Senior Nutrition Program
• Gang Prevention	• Social Development Center
• Girls/Boys Club	• Tutoring Program
• Graffiti Paint Out	• Youth Employment
• Juvenile Probation	• MYEEP/SYEIP
• Home Supervision	• Job Readiness
	• ZAP Project (substance abuse day treatment for adolescents)

All services and activities FREE
Member agency of the United Way of the Bay Area
The NABE is wheelchair accessible. If you have the need for the services of a certified American Sign Language interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or meeting in an alternative format please contact (415) 826-8080 at least three working days prior

Nabe Youth Advocate Ronald Hatter Stricken With Aneurysm, Dies at 56

Ronald Hatter, an advocate for the needs of young people who educated his community on issues relating to drugs, AIDS and violence, died November 13 at the age of 56 of an aneurysm.

Hatter was respected for being available, virtually around the clock to help young people in trouble. This commit-

ment gave him the opportunity to reach out and change the lives of many people.

At the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, he was active in helping youth through the center's many programs, including the Omega Boys Club and "The New Thang," a program that provided opportunities for young people through relationships with major corporations.

He was also instrumental in founding the Multi-Ethnic Theatre (MET), which has been a resident theater company at the Nabe, and he was part of a number of MET productions.

In the 1970s, Hatter was among those who helped create the city's first methadone program, at San Francisco General Hospital. Subsequently, he was officially cited by Mayor Art Agnos for his work fighting drug addiction.

Hatter was also a leader in raising awareness of the impact of AIDS in the African-American community, and he played a key role in securing the first funding for African-Americans with AIDS, through the San Francisco Dept. of Public Health and the Bayview Hunters Point Foundation.

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Hatter with his family relocated to San Francisco and Hatter attended Lowell High School, and later was graduated from the University of Oregon. He was the son of Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Executive Director Enola D. Maxwell, and of R.L. Hatter of Los Angeles. He had two sisters, Barbara Dundy and Sopenia Maxwell; four sons, Daryl, Edward, Ernest and James; two daughters, Angela and Renee and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service was held November 24 at Glide Memorial United Methodist Church, and continued with a celebration of Hatter's life afterwards at the Nabe. Contributions in Hatter's memory may be sent to the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., San Francisco, CA 94107.



RON HATTER

Project Open Hand Seeking Volunteers for Food Deliveries

By Carol Peterson

Project Open Hand, a organization based near Potrero Hill that is dedicated to providing healthy meals and groceries to people with symptomatic HIV and AIDS, is looking for volunteers. This vital service offers anyone with a few hours a week many different ways to make a difference in our community.

This program has uncomplicated premise: to provide one meal per day to its clients, all of whom are HIV positive or have AIDS. The program also operates a food bank at 1166 Howard St. Delivered dinners are made with the client's special dietary needs in mind, such as no salt, vegan, no dairy, diabetic or bland. Sample meals for November included Chicken Marengo with Polenta, Pasta Primavera with Turkey, and Beef Stroganoff with Egg Noodles.

Kevin Swanson, Associate Director of Communications, explained that a variety of volunteer opportunities are available. If you have a car, you can deliver dinner to a specific route one day a week. Volunteers on these routes work with a partner, to avoid parking difficulties. The route takes about two hours to complete and the teams are assigned the same route every week, which gives a sense of continuity to both the client and the volunteers.

Ronda Bonati, who, with her partner Otis Phelps and alternate Delores Munroy, works a Potrero Hill route, believes the program not only provides nourishing food, but a sense of comfort and security to the client. Because of the way the system works, Open Hand clients are

assured that they will have contact with someone who cares at least once a day. Bonati says that this is a great way to help the community in a manner that is adaptable to many schedules.

Another Potrero Hill route driver, Susan Goldenstein, agrees. Her route is on a Monday, which she says helps her start her week with a positive attitude. It makes her feel she has no problems compared to those she visits on a weekly basis, Goldenstein says. She has been with the program for four years.

If you don't wish to deliver food, volunteer shifts are available in the kitchen at 2720 - 17th St., or at the food bank at 1166 Howard St. Shifts are available mornings, early afternoons, and evenings. The kitchen shifts involve meal preparation, and the food bank shifts involve filling client food requests in the warehouse.

Swanson adds that there are generally enough volunteers on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, but volunteers are in shorter supply the rest of the year. To give yourself and others a holiday boost, call the Volunteer Hotline at (415) 252-2784.

Caleb G. Clark Potrero Hill Health Center

1050 Wisconsin Street
San Francisco, California 94107
Telephone: 648-3022

Michael J. Drennan, MD - Director

Primary Health Care
Family Practice
Pediatrics
Internal Medicine
Prenatal/Postpartum Care
Podiatry
Nutrition
Dentistry

Medical: 8:30-5:00 M, T, Th, F
8:30:6:30 Wed

Dental: 9:00-4:00 M, T, W, F
9:00-Noon Th

Doctor and Dentist on call 24 hours
for registered patients

Fees: Medicare, MediCal, .
DentiCal, Insurance,
Sliding Scale

Appointments encouraged

MUNI Tix at Nabe

MUNI and BART tickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays during office hours, 10 am-4 pm

Senior MUNI: \$8.00
Youth MUNI: \$8.00

For more information, call
826-8080

POTRERO HILL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY

Saturday, December 14th, 3 - 5 pm
Jackson Park Recreation Center

Games • Entertainment • Music • Songs
plus a visit from Santa

Call the PHPA information Line 282-7425 for information on Special Events for Families, Children's Activities, Parenting Classes and Community Action

Tuesday, December 24, 6:30 pm CHRISTMAS EVE at St. Gregory's



Our one Christmas service
features a children's
pageant, beautiful

music from the
choir, and many
carols sung by
all. Come join
us for this
festive service
as we remember
Christ's birth
with song
and dance.

St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
500 DeHaro Street (corner of Mariposa and DeHaro),
San Francisco, CA 94107
415.255.8100

Group Set to Counter Threat to Esprit Park

(Continued from Page 1)

occasionally served as a venue for the display of monumental sculpture.

The current management of Esprit, the clothing manufacturer, has discussed the future of the park and its possible sale but has not made a final decision on the matter. "Friends of Esprit Park," headed by Andrew Detsch, who designed the park, are determined to prevent its sale to developers and the group has requested that the City acquire the property through its Open Space Program.

San Francisco's Open Space Program is administered by the Recreation and Park

Department with funds mandated by voters through passage of Proposition E in 1988. The program revenues for 1996-97 are estimated to total \$16 million, of which at least 24 percent goes to acquisition and development.

Initial public hearings for the Friends' proposal have not yet been scheduled by Rec and Park's Open Space Citizens Advisory Committee, and the park advocate group is approaching neighborhood organizations to muster support for the park. The phone number for "Friends of Esprit Park" is (415) 243-0940.

Hill Corrections Facility Drops Bid to Expand

(Continued from Page 1)

time elapse for an open forum, so that the participants can be more learned about the program," he said. "We'd be able to field questions about what happens there."

The Indiana Street Facility serves as a halfway house for offenders convicted of crimes committed in San Francisco county. Inmates become eligible for the work furlough program in the last 90 days of their sentences. The facility has been on the Hill for six years.

Critics of the program say that neither Cornell nor the California Department of Corrections — the government agency charged with overseeing the facility — have lived up to their commitments as outlined in the facility's conditional use permit. These commitments include regular reports on the rate of recidivism of inmates completing the program and on the facility's effect on neighborhood crime rates.

"The Department of Corrections has been jacking us around all these years regarding whether they would ever give us a final report on the rate of recidivism, for all the people who had gone through the program," said Hill resident Janet Carpinelli.

Carpinelli is president of the Indiana Street Facility's Community Advisory Board, a group made up of community members and representatives from the police, the Department of Corrections,

and officials from Cornell Corrections. Carpinelli has been on the board since its inception in 1990, but was made president after new elections, Oct. 16. She replaces former president Lester Zeidman and is strongly opposed to having the facility at the bottom of the Hill.

Carpinelli, along with other board members and concerned residents have vowed to press the issue with the Planning Department. They want the facility's conditional use permit rescinded and the facility itself closed down.



People who use Esprit Park enjoy picnicing, sports, and interacting with the sculpture exhibits. *Lester Zeidman photo*

Carlson
Wagonlit
Travel

Cruises.....Tours.....Airline and Rail Tickets....Hotel and Car Reservations

THE HILL TRAVEL

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Holiday Hours

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
Nov 24 1-5	10-7	10-7	10-7	Nov 28 Closed	Nov 29 10-7	Nov 30 10-6
Dec 01 1-5	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-6
Dec 08 1-5	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-6
Dec 15 1-5	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-7	10-6
Dec 22 1-5 Closed Dec 24	Dec 23 10-7	Dec 24 10-4	Dec 25 Closed Closed 1-1:15	10-5:30	10-5:30	10-4

Hill Author, Teacher, Tap Dancer Writes Parents' Pre-School Guide

By Lysa Allman

"Parents are not only their children's first teacher, they can also be their best. Almost every living creature must be nurtured and educated by one or both parents. Observing most animals you will notice they teach by showing. You, too, can teach by example. How fortunate we are to be able to use language also."

This is the opening paragraph of "Let's Begin on the Path to School Readiness, a Parent's Guide from Birth to Kindergarten" by Potrero Hill resident Rose Marie Sicoli-Ostler.

The first five years of a child's life are critical to future development, and

in "Let's Begin," Sicoli-Ostler outlines several simple, yet very important steps that all parents can take to ensure their child will be ready for school.

A kindergarten teacher for seven years in the Jefferson Elementary School District in Daly City, Sicoli-Ostler says the difference between those who had been stimulated and encouraged to learn, and those who had been given little or no attention, was obvious within the first few weeks of school.

"The children who came from homes where the environment was challenging and nurturing were not only eager to start school, but were very ready to learn," she noted. "Unfortunately, it was also very clear which children had been given little or no attention, those who had not heard much conversation, or had not been introduced to books and reading.

At five years old they were already lagging behind."

The book itself is short, well laid out, and the activities are described in basic, easy to comprehend terms. Sicoli-Ostler says she deliberately fashioned it that way because "most parents do not have much time to read lengthy, intellectual material."

In chapters such as "Talk," "Read," "Language and Vocabulary," and "Self-Awareness," Sicoli-Ostler demonstrates how everyday activities and occurrences can be transformed into fun learning experiences for both you and your child.

For example, she says, you should begin talking to your child immediately from birth. "Talk to your baby just as you would an adult. Use the same expressions when speaking to your baby that you would when speaking with a friend. You will marvel at the attention given you. Soon your baby will be communicating back to you with cooing, movement and facial expressions."

The principles in "Let's Begin" apply as much to parents who are home with their children as they do to working parents. Preparing them for school does not require special talent, tools or expensive materials, rather a little time each day along with love, care and attention.

Sicoli-Ostler has been a Potrero Hill resident since the age of seven, attending Daniel Webster School and St. Teresa's Church as a child. She is still active at St. Teresa's, acting as a Eucharistic Minister, as well as bringing communion to the sick and elderly. Additionally, she and husband Micky are members of the Potrero Hill Democratic Club, and the Potrero Hill Boosters, where they met in 1969. "I spoke up (at a Booster's meeting) trying to get a stop sign at 20th at Arkansas, because kids were drag racing and we thought it was terrible," she remembers. "He came up to me afterwards and we spoke about police community relations." Ten years later, they were married. "He was slow!" Sicoli-Ostler teases.

Reminiscing about the neighborhood, she recalls going to the one room wooden building on Connecticut Street that served as the library. Now she remarks



ROSE MARIE SICOLI-OSTLER

on how much the neighborhood has changed. "It's becoming more upscale.

It was always kind of a middle class neighborhood and I loved its aspect of being racially mixed. But yet, it's still a small town community, and I love that aspect."

Sicoli-Ostler's other passion is tap dancing, which she does at two different studios in town. She even earned a place with the group Rosie Radiator in the

Guinness Book of World Records. "We had tapped six and a half miles from Ghirardelli Square to Macy's (downtown). It took about two and a half hours, non-stop."

Longtime Hill residents may recall that Sicoli-Ostler and husband Micky had a hand in the View's predecessor, a monthly mimeographed sheet called "Hills and Dales."

Response to "Let's Begin" has been favorable, with 24 copies selling at the recent San Francisco Book Fair, with orders for more books. A timely holiday gift idea for parents of young children, and as a wonderful new baby gift, the volume is available at Christopher's Books at 18th and Missouri Streets on the Hill, or by sending a check or money order (made out to "Let's Begin") for \$9.95 plus \$2 tax and shipping to POB 77768, San Francisco, CA 94107.

HOW THE HILL VOTED

PRESIDENT	P.H.	S.F.	CALIF.
Bill Clinton	73.8 %	72 %	51.5 %
Bob Dole	9.5	15	37.9
Ralph Nader	12.2	8	2.3
Ross Perot	2.9	3	7.1

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE - 8th District

Nancy Pelosi	89.0	84.6
Justin Raimondo	7.8	12.2
David Smithstein	3.2	3.2

STATE SENATOR - 3rd District

John Burton	85.2	81
Curtis Rau	8.9	13
Donald Harte	5.9	6

STATE ASSEMBLY - 13th District

Carole Migden	100	100
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CITY & COUNTY PROPOSITIONS

	Yes/No	Yes/No
A - Affordable Housing Bonds	74/26	68/32
B - De Young Museum Bonds	60/40	62/38
C - Cost-of-Living Adjustments	58/42	51/49
D - Firefighters Pension Increase	62/38	58/42
E - Negotiated Retirement Benefits	32/68	28/72
F - Board of Supes Salary Increase	47/53	37/63
G - District Elections	60/40	57/43
H - Preference Voting	51/49	44/56
I - Police, Fire Commission Duties	46/54	46/54
J - Taxicab Permit Sales	29/71	34/66

STATE PROPOSITIONS

	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
204 - Water Supply Act	79/21	77/23	63/37
205 - Local Correction Facilities Bonds	35/65	43/57	41/59
206 - Veterans' Bonds	54/46	55/45	54/46
207 - Attorneys' Fees	53/47	46/54	34/66
208 - Campaign Contributions	74/26	71/29	61/39
209 - Ends All Affirmative Action	23/77	29/71	54/46
210 - Increases Minimum Wage	85/15	80/20	62/38
211 - Attorney - Client Fees	43/57	37/63	26/74
212 - Campaign Contributions	43/57	57/43	49/51
213 - Uninsured Motorist Recovery	47/53	57/43	77/23
214 - Health Care Consumer Protection	68/32	62/38	42/58
215 - Medical Use of Marijuana	88/22	78/22	56/44
216 - Health Care Consumer Protection	67/33	58/42	39/61
217 - Restores Top Tax Bracket	73/27	64/36	49/51
218 - Voter Approval Increase	29/71	37/63	56/44

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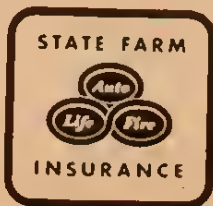
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Jewish Family and Children's Services is looking for volunteers to help seniors living in local nursing homes celebrate Chanukah. All it takes is an hour to stop by for a friendly visit between Dec. 5-12, based on your schedule. For info, call Sheryl Groden at JFCS, 561-1244.

The Jewish Family and Children's Services will be starting an eight-week discussion group for people whose parents were in Nazi Europe. This group will include survivors of camps, Jews who were in hiding or refugees who fled before the war. The goal of the group is to provide a forum to discuss with other children of survivors the experience and legacy of growing up in a survivor family. The sessions begin Jan. 7, 1997, and continue to Feb. 25. Fee for the group is \$20 per session, and a sliding scale is available. For more info call 561-1244.

The Hunters Point Shipyard Artists present a two week-end Open Studio Holiday sale, Dec. 7 & 8, and 14 & 15, 11-5 p.m. For maps and more info call 822-3809.

The Potrero Hill Merchants and St. Gregory's Church Carolers present a Holiday Party, Dec. 19, 6-8 p.m. on 18th and 20th Streets. There will be food, festivities and music, with the opportunity to meet Santa Claus at Farley's. Caroling starts at the Potrero Hill Library at 6 p.m.

A holiday sale of books takes place at the Pacific Center for the Book Arts, 300 De Haro St., Dec. 14 & 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Items offered for sale are handmade by the Center's members. Call (510) 569-7999 for more info.



Free holiday events at the Community Music Center, 544 Capp St., include a "Concert with Conversation" featuring violinist Pamela Frank and pianist Claude Frank, Dec. 13., 5:30-6:30 p.m. On Dec. 14, at 11:30 a.m., the Center's Annual Holiday Party for Children features the short Christmas opera "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a visit from Santa Claus, caroling and refreshments. For more information call 647-6015.

"The Pages of Sins: Beat Era Book Arts," is the current exhibit at the San Francisco Center for the Book, 300 De Haro St. The exhibition offers an opportunity to view more than 30 books and printed examples of Beat book arts, alongside Harry Redl's photographs of artists from that time. Many of the photos have never been printed before. The exhibit runs through Jan. 12. For more info and times the Center is open, call 565-0545.

The Hand Bookbinders of California will hold their 24th annual Members' Exhibition in the Skylight Gallery, sixth floor, S.F. Public Library, Civic Center, through Dec. 31.

"Community Pride," a graffiti paint-out and clean-up project, takes place Dec. 12 and 21 at 1095 Connecticut St. Neighbors help neighbors in this community effort to help in a special clean-up effort. Meet at 9 a.m. at 1095 Connecticut for instructions. Lunch will be provided. For more info call Joyce Armstrong, 826-8080.

Unofficial plans for celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday in January include a weekend of activities: A candlelight walk to the King memorial in Yerba Buena Gardens; a number of cultural events, and an informal vigil.

The San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) offers training in a Green Gardening Education Program that begins in February. The program will teach about gardening in the city and how to work with communities to reduce pesticide use. The four-month training will focus on alternatives to pesticides, waste reduction through composting, and urban agriculture. Applications are due Jan. 15, 1997, so call 285-SLUG for more info.

Modern Times Books, 888 Valencia St., presents an evening of readings of poems, essays, and other pieces by Mission High School youth, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

The American Friends Service Committee offers a community conversation on Alcatraz Island Dec. 14. The discussion will take place among victims, ex-offenders, their families, prison officials and activists. The event, called "The Table of Voices," costs \$6.75 and includes the round-trip ferry ride, a National Park Service tour of the island. The trip begins at 11:45 a.m. and lasts until 3:30 p.m. For reservations and information call Richard Kamler, 566-3811.

The S.F. 49ers and Long's Drugstore donated special prizes in a contest sponsored by the teachers at the Potrero Hill Middle School for the student they thought had shown the most improvement. The grand prize winner was Mercedes Winnfield.

A free treatment program for people over 60 experiencing depression is being offered at San Francisco General Hospital. The program is part of a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. Classes will be held for four to six months at SFGH, and free transportation will be provided through the use of taxi vouchers for those in need. Each person will receive \$55 for the time they spend in the follow-up evaluations. For those interested in making an appointment, or for more information, call 476-7439. All calls are confidential.

PICKLES' HOLIDAY



The New Pickle Circus' holiday show takes a fresh look at the season's celebrations, from a peek at a nutty "Nutcracker" to wacky office parties, from holiday cards to the surprise and delight of gifts, and a lot more, at the Ft. Mason Cowell Theatre, Dec. 13 - Jan. 1. The show features members of the Children's Performing Troupe of the San Francisco School of Circus Arts, and the famed Pickle Band.

David Allen photo



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Hill Artist's Unique Menorah On Display at Smithsonian

By Judy Baston

When Potrero Hill artist Abrasha Staszewski was a six year old child in Holland, he decided to make a menorah for Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights. Little did he know back in 1954 as he built his first menorah with a piece of wood and nine bottle caps, that 42 years later, a unique menorah he had designed and crafted would be in the prestigious Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

The son of two Polish Jews who had moved to Holland before World War II, Staszewski, who prefers to be known simply as Abrasha, first came to the U.S. in 1977. Because he had a friend on Potrero Hill, he was frequently in the neighborhood nearly 20 years ago and remembers it was "very different. There were only a few stores on 18th Street in those days, and that was about it."

Abrasha and his wife Maria, with their two young children, have lived on the Hill since 1990. "We wanted to live in a quiet neighborhood, and we remembered coming to Potrero Hill on the day after the big 1989 earthquake to visit a friend on the Hill who was the only one we knew who had electricity. We came for a barbeque and we could see all the way to downtown—it was all dark."

By profession a jewelry designer who has received numerous awards for his work, Abrasha's path to exhibition in the Smithsonian began when he met Kenneth Trapp, then a curator at the Oakland Museum, which was exhibiting a piece of Abrasha's at a jewelry show there. Trapp subsequently served on the advisory board of the San Francisco Jewish Museum's 1995 show, "Light Interpretations: A Hanukkah Menorah Invitational," and urged Abrasha to create a menorah for that show.

Since his debut as a menorah-maker at age six, Abrasha had made only one other Hanukkah candelabra, in 1977, when he first came to the U.S. "I didn't have a menorah, so I made one," he recalls. "I first looked for the sort of candles I wanted to burn, hoping to find white ones like I was used to. The closest thing I could find were household emergency candles. They were so big that they ended up being too close to each other and they started to melt."

When Abrasha set out to make his third menorah for the Jewish Museum exhibit, he wanted to make it traditionally correct, so he went to the Jewish Community Library on 14th Avenue and consulted the Code of Jewish Law on the subject. "One of the specifications," he notes ruefully, remembering his second menorah, "is that there must be sufficient space between the lights so the flames may not merge and resemble a torch."

(A menorah has eight lights, and one "shammas," which lights the others. The number commemorates the eight nights one small vial of oil lasted during the revolt of the Maccabees for religious freedom.)

Abrasha first conceived of a linear menorah, with lights in a row, but his wife Maria urged him to "make it more playful," he recalls. The final design "is flexible—it articulates and can change configuration; it can make literally hundreds of different configurations." It took him 300 hours to make the menorah, with his research, design, and "bench time of 173½ hours." (Designs of his menorah's various configurations look for all the world like diagrams of chemical molecules.)

After Abrasha submitted his piece to the Jewish Museum exhibit, Oakland Museum curator Trapp moved to the nation's capital to become curator at the Renwick Gallery of the National



This menorah, which is in the Renwick Gallery, can change configuration because the connectors shown above allow flexibility.

Museum of American Art at the Smithsonian Institution. Trapp then purchased for the Renwick the menorah that Abrasha had made for the San Francisco exhibit.

"I had three trees planted in his honor, because he is connected to three of my exhibitions," Abrasha notes, pointing out that tree-planting is a traditional way to honor people in his native Holland.

He has made mezuzahs—doorpost prayer-cases—and incorporates other themes of heritage and remembrance in other work, but Abrasha is best known as a jewelry designer. As he is a self-described purist about his menorah

(seeking natural cotton wicks to burn the traditional olive oil, for example), he is likewise a purist about his jewelry.

"I use pure form and pure materials—gold, platinum and diamonds," he notes. "I create jewelry from unexpected combinations of precious and non-precious materials in forms well beyond traditional jewelry concepts." He worked and studied with Prof. Klaus Ullrich, one of Germany's leading jewelry artists, and also cites as influences the Bauhaus movement and Japanese design, "both of which share a strong sense of simplicity."

Many of his designs incorporate rivets, which, Abrasha points out, "are often slightly irregular in shape and location, which contrasts with the strong geometry of the rest of the designs."

Locally, his jewelry is sold at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art museum store.



Abrasha at work in his San Francisco studio.
Judy Baston photo

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Hill Craftswomen to Show at Ft. Mason 'Celebration'

Potrero Hill craftswomen will be among the more than 280 artists to be showcased at the 1996 Celebration of Craftswomen, the holiday crafts fair slated for Dec. 7-8 and 14-15 at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion, Buchanan Street and Marina Blvd.

The Hill artists are Terry Ow-Wing, who works in glass; Margarita Popova, who designs jewelry; De De Rodriguez and Rebecca Carillo, who work with

wood, and Lora Soling, a fiber artist who specializes in hats.

The Celebration of Craftswomen is the largest juried women's crafts fair in the U.S. and is a benefit for the San Francisco Women's Building. Different craftswomen will display their creations each weekend. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and a special two-weekend pass for \$8. For further information call 361-0700.



Happy Birthday . . .

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY:

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HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY:

Steve Arnautoff, Smaro Chiotras, Michael Dingle, Judith Ganz, Bob Hayes, Denise Meblin-Kessler, Billy Kiebal, Micah McKechnie, Este McManus, Shimon Meblin, Marc Passen, Jimmy Potts, Don Ross, Georgina Scrimpos, Pepe Yedra.



Potrero Hill's Terry Ow-Wing is seen in her studio in preparation for the "Celebration of Craftswomen" show at Ft. Mason Center, Dec. 7-8, and 14-15.

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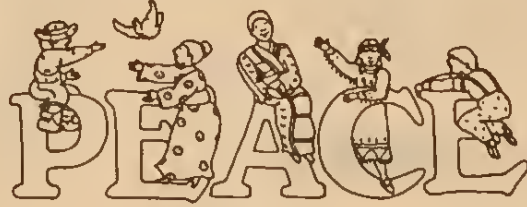
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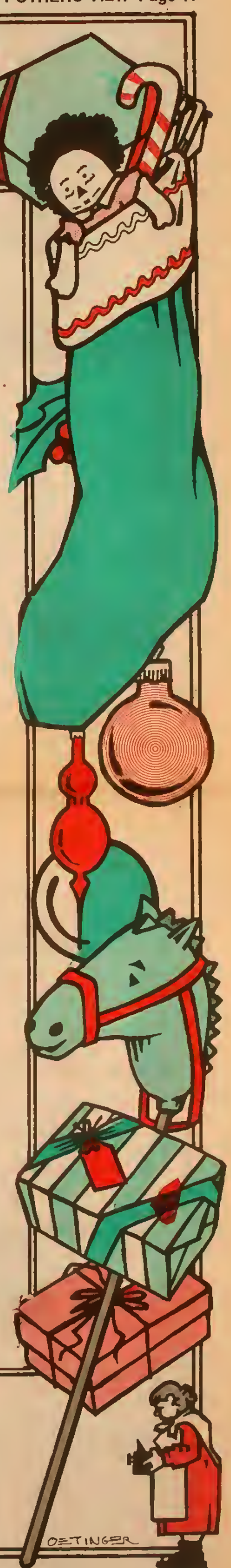
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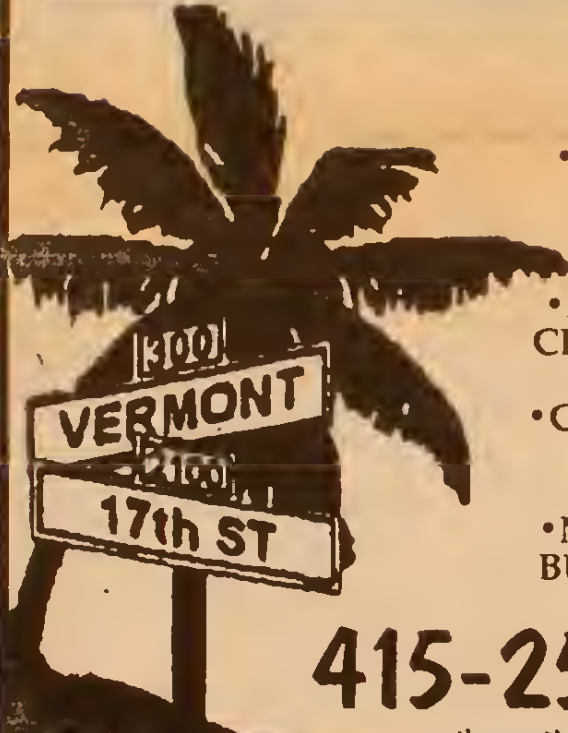
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VISITORS WELCOME: Comfortable, furnished apt, nonsmoking priv. entrance, great Pot Hill location. Avail for few days/few wks. No live-ins. 285-0251.

CUSTOM SLIPCOVERS, ORAPES, cloud & balloon shades, bedspreads & accessories, pillows, duvet covers. Notary service. call Doris 337-9003 or 708-9620 Pager.

TAX PREPARATION: Financial services for travelers and the distracted. \$10 discount w/ad; Bernal Hts. Gretchen Beck, EA, 695-1819.

HANDY AND REASONABLE: Kitchen & bathroom remodeling and home repair. For a new light or electrical outlet, washer and dryer hookups, water heater, linoleum floor, hardwood floor, tile and more. Call Paul, 282-5041. Lic #686755.

HOW TO TALK SO KIDS WILL LISTEN AND LISTEN SO KIDS WILL TALK Take a 7 week workshop based on the popular book by Faber and Mazlish. For parents of 3-12 year olds. Offered in San Francisco and Belmont by Kathy Stannard-Friel, MA, RN. Call for free brochure (415) 255-7400.

LOOKING FOR A TWELVE YEAR EXPERIENCED RELIABLE HOUSECLEANER? Stop your search! Call KJ now at (415) 285-3014.

NEW THERAPY GROUPS FOR: Midlife men and women, midlife women only, adults with aging parents. Feisty, friendly, common sense therapist with successful results for over 25 years, is now available for individuals, groups and families. Very experienced with midlife issues, depression, anxiety and relationships. Arlene Dumas, LCSW, 641-4553 for information.

PIANO LESSONS for children, teens, adults, using trad & Suzuki methods & variety of musical styles. Music degree SFSU, 17 yrs exp in S.F. Patricia Avery, 550-8299.

The View Staff wishes



Pictured above (L-R): Abby Johnston, Denise Meblin, Judy Baston, Winifred Mann, Ruth Passen, Lester Zeidman, Bernie Gershater, Vas Arnautoff, and Lysa Allman.

Photo by Lester Zeidman

You a Happy Holiday